

IN THE CLAIMS:

The status of the claims is provided:

1. (withdrawn) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, comprising:
 - a first adhering unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to the first object, and a second adhering surface;
 - a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface that is adhered to the second adhering surface of the first adhering unit;
 - a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to a second surface of the backer/stabilizer;
 - a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and
 - a second adhering unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object.
2. (withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 1, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of styrofoam, wood, plastic, cardboard, spongy material, card stock, and any combination thereof.

3. (withdrawn) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object, comprising:

a backer/stabilizer that has a first surface and a second surface opposite the first surface, the backer/stabilizer being either a rigid or a semi-rigid element;

a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and a back side that is adhered to the second surface of the backer/stabilizer;

a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener that has a front side with a releasably attachable surface and which is configured to be releasably attached to the front side of the first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener; and

an adhesive unit that has a first adhering surface for adhering to a back side of the second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener, and a second adhering surface for adhering to a surface of the second object; and

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

4. (withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the means for attaching includes at least one of stapling, gluing, sewing, tying and taping the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

5. (withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the means for attaching comprises:

connecting means for connecting to a portion of the first object to attach the first object to the backer/stabilizer, the connecting means being integrally formed as part of the backer/stabilizer.

6. (withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 5, wherein the connecting means is one of: a protruding region for coupling to a cavity portion of the first object, and a cavity region for coupling to a protruding portion of the first object.
7. (withdrawn) The attachment device according to claim 3, wherein the backer/stabilizer is one of plastic, cardboard, and card stock.

Claims 8-13 (canceled)

14. (withdrawn) A reusable ornament for attachment to an object, comprising:
 - an ornamental portion; and
 - a coupling portion for coupling the ornamental portion to the object, wherein the coupling portion includes:
 - a ribbon for wrapping around the object, the ribbon including:
 - a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener provided adjacent a first end of the ribbon on a first surface of the ribbon;
 - a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener provided adjacent a second end of the ribbon on a second surface of the ribbon opposite the first surface; and
 - means for attaching the ribbon to the ornamental portion,

wherein the first and second adhesive and/or mechanical fasteners are attached to each other when the ribbon is wrapped around the object.

Claims 15-20 (canceled)

21. (withdrawn) A method for constructing an attachment device for releasably attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:
 - attaching a backer/stabilizer to the first object;
 - attaching a non-releasably attachable surface of a first adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to the backer/stabilizer;
 - attaching a non-releasably attachable surface of a second adhesive and/or mechanical fastener to the second object; and
 - coupling respective releasably adhesive surfaces of the first and second adhesive and/or mechanical fasteners to each other.
22. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein the backer/stabilizer is attached to the first object by one of an adhesive material, glue, staple and sewing thread.
23. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 22, further comprising:
 - removing a peel-off protective cover on one surface of the backer/stabilizer prior to attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

Claims 24-33 (canceled)

34. (withdrawn) An attachment device for a first object to be releasably attached to a second object and later to a third object, comprising:

an affixing element;

a backer/stabilizer being of either a rigid or a semi-rigid construction and providing backing and stability, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening, cut-out, or channel for receiving the affixing element;

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object;

an adhesive unit having first and second adhesive surfaces, such that the adhesive unit adheres to the backer/stabilizer by way of the first adhesive surface, and such that the adhesive unit adheres to the second object by way of the second adhesive surface,

wherein after the backer/stabilizer has been detached from the second object and prior to reuse of the backer/stabilizer and the first object for attachment to the third object, the adhesive unit is removed from the backer/stabilizer to allow another adhesive unit to be adhered thereto.

Claims 35-42 (canceled)

43. (withdrawn) An attachment device for attaching a first object to a second object, comprising:

an affixing element;

a backer/stabilizer that is provided on a first portion of the attachment device, the backer/stabilizer being of either a rigid or a semi-rigid construction and providing backing and stability, the backer/stabilizer having at least one opening, cut-out, or channel for receiving the affixing element;

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the first object;

means for attaching the backer/stabilizer to the second object;

a hanger portion that is provided on a second portion of the attachment device, the hanger portion allowing the attachment to be hung on a display device;
and

perforating means provided on the attachment device to allow a user to separate the first portion from the second portion.

Claims 44-50 (canceled)

51. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 21, wherein the backer/stabilizer is formed out of plastic, the method further comprising:

heating the backer/stabilizer while at the same time fitting an affixing element onto the backer/stabilizer, to thereby form a composite structure in which the backer/stabilizer is rigidly coupled to the affixing element and in which the affixing element is utilized to attach the backer/stabilizer to the first object.

52. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 51, wherein the affixing element is one of: a wire, an elastic band, a string, a plastic tie, and an adjustable ring.

Claims 53-88 (canceled)

89. (new) An ornamental item and coupling apparatus, the coupling apparatus comprising:

a substantially planar, semi-rigid backer having opposed first and second major surfaces, said backer having at least first and second spaced openings extending therethrough;

a tying element securable to said ornamental item, said tying element having first and second opposite ends received in said first and second spaced openings, respectively, said first end secured to said second end to form a continuous loop, thereby releasably securing an ornamental item to said first major surface of said backer;

a first fastener having opposed first and second surfaces, said first surface of said first fastener secured to said second major surface of said backer;

a second fastener having opposed first and second surfaces, said first surface of said second fastener secured to an object, wherein said second surface of said first fastener is releasably securable to said second surface of said second fastener.

90. (new) The coupling apparatus of claim 89, wherein said second surfaces of said first and second fasteners comprise loop and hook fasteners.

91. (new) The coupling apparatus of claim 89, wherein said backer is formed from a material selected from the group consisting of plastic, cardboard, card stock, wood, and poster board.
92. (new) The coupling apparatus of claim 91, wherein said backer has a thickness of between about 0.03 inch and about 0.07 inch.
93. (new) The coupling apparatus of claim 89, wherein said tying element is selected from the group consisting of a coated wire, a metal wire, and a plastic strap.
94. (new) The coupling apparatus of claim 89, wherein the ornamental item is selected from the group consisting of a ribbon, a bow, a crayon box, a stuffed animal toy, a flower, a flower tube, and a barrette.
95. (new) The coupling apparatus of claim 89, wherein said first and second openings are circular in configuration.
96. (new) The coupling apparatus of claim 89, wherein said backer includes first and second opposite ends, a first cut-out extending from a periphery of said first end to said first opening, and a second cut-out extending from the periphery of said second end to said second opening, wherein each corresponding cut-out and opening have a key-hole configuration.

97. (new) The coupling apparatus of claim 89, wherein each of said openings includes a first slit and a second slit adjoining said first slit and angular disposed relative to said first slit.